REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-60 are pending in the present application. Claims 2, 4, 6, 8-10, 12, 13, 15-31, 33, 35 and 37-60 have been withdrawn from consideration, and Claim 1 has been amended by the present amendment without introducing new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 1 was objected to; Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 14, 32, 34 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

First, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to acknowledge as considered the IDS filed November 26, 2003.

With regard to the objection to Claim 1, Claim 1 has been amended in light of the comments noted in the outstanding Office Action. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this objection be withdrawn.

Further, with regard to the rejection of Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 14, 32, 34 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, Claim 1 has been amended, and finds support at page 28, line 21 to, page 29, line 15 of the specification, and Figures 1-9, for example. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this rejection be withdrawn.

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Consequently, in light of the above discussion, and in view of the present amendment,

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and
an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,

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 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Customer Number} \\ 22850 \end{array}$

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